Presented to the L. H. Bailey Hortorium
by the Missouri Botanical Garden, 1972.

No. 8.

AUTUMN, 1865.

A RETAIL LIST

OF

NEW

BEAUTIFUL AND RARE

PLANTS,

OFFERED BY

WILLIAM BULL, F.R.H.S., F.R.B.S.,

MEMBRE DE LA SOCIÉTÉ IMPÈRIALE D'HORTICULTURE DE PARIS.
——,, ——,, ——,, ——,, ROYALE DE FLORE DE BRUXELLES.
——,, ——,, ——,, ——,, —— D'AGRICULTURE ET DE BOTANIQUE DE GAND.
——,, ——,, ——,, —— D'HORTICULTURE DE BERLIN.

NEW PLANT MERCHANT,

KING'S ROAD, CHELSEA,

LONDON, S.W.

MO. BOT. GARDEN
1911

SHOUT
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IT

A LIST OF

SELECTED BEDDING, SOFT-WOODED,

AND OTHER

NEW & RARE PLANTS,

MANY OF WHICH ARE OFFERED FOR THE FIRST TIME.

UPWARDS OF TWO HUNDRED PRIZES & AWARDS

HAVE BEEN MADE TO

WILLIAM BULL,

FOR NEW AND RARE PLANTS ALONE

AT THE PRINCIPAL LONDON FLOWER SHOWS DURING THE PRESENT YEAR.

W. B. mentions this as conveying some idea of the importanee of his collection.

W. B. wishes to remark that he does not publish a General Catalogue of Plants, but only issues short Lists of Novelties from time to time.

William Bull will be happy to make arrangements with *Botanists* or *Naturalists* going abroad for the transmission of *Plants, Seeds, &c.;* and will also be glad to purchase or make arrangements for the sending out of any first-rate *Seedling Varieties of Plants* that may be raised by *Amateurs* or *Gardeners* in this country.

RETAIL LIST.

In announcing the following NEW PLANTS, WILLIAM BULL begs to say they will all be found to maintain the high reputation of the Flowers previously sent out by him.

They are all now ready for delivery, except those specified to be sent out in October.

ALLAMANDA HENDERSONI.

This remarkably fine variety has been imported from Guiana. It is the largest flowered orange-yellow Allamanda known, lobes finely formed, immensely thick and wax-like, and tinged with brown on the reverse side. The plant begins to flower about the same time as the other Allamandas, but when once it commences it possesses the excellent characteristic of being continuous blooming, thus the blooming season is prolonged throughout the season, so that it will be invaluable for exhibition purposes, and as a free growing stove climber unequalled. The habit is good, with excellent rich dark green glossy foliage.

A well executed drawing of it, by ANDREWS, can be seen at my Establishment.

It has received two First Class Certificates for its superior merit; plants will be ready for sending out in October next.

The entire stock has been purchased from Messrs. A. Henderson & Co.

Price 31*s.* 6*d. each.*

ASPLENIUM MYRIOPHYLLUM.

A most elegant Stove Fern introduced from Chiapa, Mexico. The fronds are tufted, short-stalked, about six inches long, lanceolate, the pinnules so small and fine that it is quite a gem, not only among Asplcniums, but in the whole Fern family, so that it is a plant that should be in the most select collection.

It has been frequently exhibited and always received a First Class Certificate.

Price 105*s. each.*

AZALEA (Indica) GRANDE DUCHESSE DE BADE.

This extremely handsome rich coloured variety will be found an acquisition in every collection. Its colour is a bright orange scarlet, flower well formed, sometimes showing a slight inclination to be double, petals very thick and wax-like, excellent habit.

Price 15*s.*, 21*s.*, *and* 31*s.* 6*d. each.*

AZALEA (Indica) REINE DES PAYS BAS.

Violet pink, margined with white, and richly spotted with deep crimson. This will be a favourite variety: it elicited universal admiration and obtained a prize when exhibited as a seedling at the Grand International Horticultural Exhibition held at Amsterdam last spring. Further remark on its merit is unnecessary.

The stock for circulation in Great Britain and Ireland has been purchased, plants of which will be ready in October.

A well executed drawing of it, by Andrews, can be seen at my Establishment.

Price 21*s. and* 31*s.* 6*d. each.*

BOUGAINVILLEA LATERITIA.

A showy Stove Climber which can be also trained and grown as a specimen exhibition plant. Like the other Bougainvilleas its great beauty consists in the floral leaves or bracts which accompany the flowers, but instead of being manve, as in the other kinds hitherto bloomed in this country, are of a salmony-pink, and consequently a very distinct and desirable variety.

It has received three First Class Certificates during the past season.

The entire stock has been purchased from Mr. Charles Turner, of Slough. Plants will be ready for sending out in October next.

A well executed drawing of it, by Andrews, can be seen at my Establishment.

Price 21*s. each; specimens* 42*s. and* 63*s. each.*

DIOSCOREA ANÆCTOCHILUS.

This remarkable and handsome species has been introduced from the Amazon; it has broadly ovate-acuminate leaves which when mature are of a dark olive green marbled with gold, with broad central golden band running through them. The young leaves are plain bright green, and the remarkable variation is developed as they acquire age,

It is a Stove Climber, but can easily be trained and grown as a specimen plant for exhibition, for which it is well adapted on account of its handsomely variegated foliage.

Its resemblance to some of the members of that beautiful family the Anæctochilæ has suggested the name, but unlike that family it is free growing and easily cultivated.

Price 42*s.*, 63*s.*, *and* 105*s. each.*

EPIPHYLLUM TRUNCATUM TRICOLOR.

The blossoms of this variety are unusually attractive, of a salmon orange passing into red, and having the centre of a rich purple, very handsome and distinct, much the best Epiphyllum ever offered, and a most desirable acquisition to our winter blooming plants, its gay flowers at that season being most attractive.

This variety has received the highest award that can be made to a new plant.

Price 10*s.* 6*d. each.*

LASTRÆA ERYTHROSORA.

A very handsome hardy evergreen Japanese Fern, well adapted for greenhouse or open air cultivation, for it is quite hardy and the fronds are persistent throughout the winter, growing two to three feet high, with dark stripes, bold shining fronds, the fertile ones decorated by lines of red dots which are the involucral scales overlying the spore cases.

It has received several Certificates of Merit as a distinct and desirable hardy Fern.

Price 10*s.* 6*d. each.*

PEPEROMIA ARGYREA.

This pretty ornamental stove plant has been introduced from Brazil, and is the handsomest species with which we are acquainted. It is of easy cultivation, with ovate cordate leaves of wax-like character, and great substance, bright green ribs or veins with the intervening spaces white, giving the impression of burnished or frosted silver.

It has been awarded a First Class Certificate by the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society.

Price 31*s.* 6*d. each.*

PEPEROMIA ARIFOLIA.

This exquisite little variegated plant has been introduced by the Royal Horticultural Society, through their collector Mr. Weir, from South America. Its leaves are thick and wax-like, bright green with white variegation, easily cultivated and as a small growing stove plant quite an acquisition.

It has received several Certificates of Merit, and is a plant that can be strongly recommended.

Price 21*s. each.*

PRIMULA INTERMEDIA.

There is always a charm about pretty spring flowers, and this is a gem, and a perfectly hardy plant too; it is a hybrid between *Primulas ciliata* and *minima*, the habit is robust and vigorous, and it blooms in the most profuse manner, throwing strong trusses of flowers, on each of which is a very large number of pips. It is sweet-scented, and the colour a brilliant purplish-crimson or beautiful mauve, and is admirably adapted for spring garden decoration, whether planted in beds, clumps, or edgings.

It received a First Class Certificate when exhibited at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Regent's Park, last spring.

The entire stock has been purchased from Mr. Thomas Fuller, of Leeds.

A well-executed drawing of it, by Andrews, can be seen at my Establishment.

Price 10*s.* 6*d. each.*

PTERIS CRETICA SERRULATA VARIEGATA.

An interesting variegated hybrid, intermediate between *P. serrulata* and *P. cretica albo-lineata*, the fronds are pinnate, and prettily serrated, each pinnæ banded down the centre with a white stripe, and instead of the spreading habit of the last named Fern, its growth is more rigid and compact.

It has received various Certificates of Merit, and can be recommended for cultivation in a greenhouse.

Price 10*s.* 6*d. each.*

SAURAUJA SARAPIGIENSIS.

This handsome foliaged stove plant is an introduction from Costa Rica. From its noble aspect it is a worthy associate with *Sphærogyne* and *Cyanophyllum*, and although only recently introduced it has already produced leaves twenty inches long by nine wide, which when young are of a pleasant reddish tint, and the mid-rib in all the leaves is of a bright red, which latter contrasts prettily with the green leaves.

The entire stock of this plant has been purchased from M. Linden, of Brussels.

Price 42*s*. *and* 63*s*. *each*.

SPHACELE CÆRULEA.

A useful winter-blooming plant belonging to the *Labiatæ* family. It is soft-wooded, with thick, ovate, serrated foliage, and if cultivated in a warm greenhouse, gives its pretty blue flowers all through the winter in the most abundant manner.

Price 10*s*. 6*d*. *each*.

SPHÆROGYNE CINNAMOMEA.

An ornamental plant introduced from Costa Rica, the aspect of which is really noble, for the leaves are about a foot and a half long, by nine inches broad. Its cultivation is easy, and it succeeds admirably in a warm greenhouse or stove. The specific name is derived from the cinnamon-like character and colour of its stem, which makes a pleasing contrast to the massive light green foliage.

This plant can be recommended as a First-class novelty, well adapted for exhibiting as a foliage plant.

It has received various Certificates of Merit for its ornamental character.

Price 42*s*. *and* 63*s*. *each*.

THE MUSTARD TREE OF SCRIPTURE.

"Salvadora Persica."

This remarkably interesting plant is now offered for the first time in this country. It requires to be cultivated in a stove.

Price 105*s*. *each*.

NEW DOUBLE-FLOWERING MIMULUS.

In introducing these extraordinary Novelties Mr. W. B. thinks he cannot do better than quote the able and lucid description given of them in the *Gardener's Chroniele*, April 15, 1865 :—

"We have more than once had occasion to mention Mr. Bull's strain of Mimuluses, and we have now to notice another perfectly new strain, with veritable duplex monkey-flowers, thorough hose-in-hose, as though the calyx, justifying the name, had taken to mimicking the corolla. In these remarkable curiosities the corolla exactly resembles some of the forms commonly known in gardens as *Mimulus maculosus*, but instead of the calyx being the usual form and green colour, this organ is converted into a coloured body almost exactly like the corolla in form, and, like it, brightly coloured and handsomely spotted.

"Looking at Mimuluses as decorative plants, this new feature is a very great advantage. No one can doubt or dispute the beauty of some of the fine varieties of Mimulus, but the defect, from a garden point of view is, that the flowers drop too soon—the beauty is not enduring. Now leaving out of question altogether the fact that the ornamental part of the plant is at once doubled in quantity, there remains the very important fact, that be the corolla ever so fleeting and evanescent, when it falls, the plant to all intents and purposes remains in flower: the calyx is virtually in itself a flower as far as ornament is concerned, and this part does not fall like the corolla, but lasts as long as its substance will endure. The great merit of the new race is, that the flowers, as represented by the outer of the two floral whorls remain persistent for a period hitherto unknown amongst Mimuluses."

This new strain is perfectly hardy, so that the varieties are valuable alike for open garden and greenhouse decoration.

During the past spring these Mimuluses received a First Class Certificate when exhibited before the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society, and a similar award at the Royal Botanic Society's Exhibition, Regent's Park.

A dozen of the most distinct varieties (as follows) have been selected, and are now offered for £3 the collection. To be sent out in October next.

Andersoni.—Ground colour rich yellow, lower lobe blotched with deep crimson, the upper lobes and lower part of the throat beautifully spotted with a lightish pink.

Brightness.—Rich sulphur ground, intensely marbled or belted with a beautiful vermilion crimson.

Coquette.—Clear pale primrose, the upper lobes having three or four distinct rosy crimson spots, and the lower lobe handsomely blotched with a light maroon, thus giving the flower a novel and pleasing appearance.

Diadem.—A beautiful straw-coloured variety, the lobes blotched with rich carmine, while the lower part of the throat is intensely marbled with rosy pink, producing a striking effect.

Eclat.—Bright orange, lobes heavily blotched with a rich and very dark maroon, the lower part of the throat thickly spotted with a palish crimson.

Glowworm.—Bright golden yellow, all the lobes heavily and largely blotched with a brilliant maroon spotted throat, a very attractive variety.

Heroine.—Ground colour citron, heavily blotched and regularly spotted with crimson maroon. The flowers of this variety are frequently edged and banded with light crimson.

Incomparable.—Orange, prettily spotted and maculated with crimson, the lower lobe blotched with a glowing maroon.

Liveliness.—Bright yellow, lobes blotched and pencilled with a very rich velvety crimson, and frequently banded with brownish red.

National.—Lemon, marbled with intense maroon round the lobes, the lower one blotched with deep crimson.

Royalty.—A deep golden variety, the lower lobe prettily marbled with bronze and blotched with beautiful velvety crimson, the throat thickly studded with spots of the same hue, very showy and fine.

Wandsworth.—Orange yellow ground, blotched on the lower lobe with dark vermilion, the upper lobes thickly spotted with the same colour. The throat also faintly spotted.

NEW AUCUBAS.

These new hardy evergreen shrubs are most desirable novelties, indeed they may be looked upon as the most permanently useful introductions of modern times; many have been the novelties recently added to our selections from Japan, but for durable importance none of them come up to these plants, and for this reason: the common Aucuba is a shrub that grows and thrives better in towns and cities than any other evergreen, it thrives vigorously where everything else dies,

as some of the gardens of London can testify; to us, however, it has hitherto been a fruitless shrub, but now we have the male form of this plant, and as soon as it becomes efficiently circulated all the Aucubas will be covered with large bunches of berries about four times the size of those of the common Holly, and of the brightest glossy red colour; this can now be seen, at present in perfection at my Establishment, as well as the male and female plants hereafter named.

Nothing in the way of hardy evergreen shrubs will at all compare with Aucubas when laden with their coral-like red berries.

As some little misunderstanding exists about Aucubas, perhaps it may be as well to state that the Aucuba is a dicœcious plant, that is to say some of its individuals produce only male, and others only female flowers, and that some eighty years ago the ordinary Aucuba was introduced from Japan, but the plant or plants so introduced happened to be females; by propagation the whole stock in Europe sprang from the original introduction, and Japan from that time being a sealed country the male plant could not be obtained. To the celebrated Chinese and Japanese traveller and collector, Mr. Robert Fortune, is due the merit of introducing the first male plants with which we are acquainted. Lately however, there have been several most important and distinct varieties introduced by Dr. Van Siebold, including male and female kinds, with plain green unspotted leaves; also others in both sexes having blotched and variegated foliage, as follows:—

FEMALE AUCUBAS.	s.	d.
Aucuba japonica fœmina elegans	42	0
— — — latifolia	31	6
— — — limbata	21	0
— — — lonoifolia	21	0
— — — — variegata	31	6
— — — macrophylla	31	6
— — — viridis	10	6

MALE AUCUBAS.	s.	d.
Aucuba japonica masculà angustata	42	0
— — — bicolor	31	6
— — — (*Fortune's*)	42	0
— — — maculata	42	0
— — — viridis	42	0

AMARYLLIS IMPÉRATRICE DE BRÈSIL.

A species with veritable blue flowers. When in blossom this plant is a truly enchanting object. It has been introduced from Brazil.

Price 63*s. each.*

ANTHURIUM GRANDIS.

A strikingly beautiful ornamental stove plant introduced by the Royal Horticultural Society from South America, through their collector Mr. Weir. Its large cordate leaves in mature specimens are about two feet in diameter; the ground colour is of a velvety olive green intersected with whitish ribs and yellowish tinted veins. When in its young state the leaves are of a coppery pink hue, gradually changing into a beautiful green as the plant acquires age.

This is a most desirable acquisition to our fine foliaged plants, and undoubtedly the best new ornamental plant of the season. It will prove an excellent plant for exhibition purposes.

This plant has also been distributed under the names of *A. magnificum* and *A. cordifolium.*

Price 42*s. and* 63*s. each.*

AUBRETIA PURPUREA VARIEGATA.

This remarkable and highly interesting novelty is a well defined variegated form of the well-known *Aubretia purpurea*; every leaf is broadly margined with white, thus making it an extremely effective object, indeed, the harmony of its pretty lavender blue flowers and neat variegation makes a most pleasing impression.

Being quite hardy this will be a useful plant for spring gardening, rock-work, &c., and unquestionably one of the prettiest novelties of the season.

A well-executed drawing of it, by Andrews, can be seen at my Establishment.

The entire stock has been purchased from Mr. D. Wood, Brough, Yorkshire.

Price 5*s. each.*

BIGNONIA ARGYREA VIOLESCENS.

A pretty ornamental stove climber, introduced from South America. The leaves of this plant are exquisite, showing two or three forms of variegation at the same time; when young they are a purplish green with the mid-rib and veins bordered on each side with bright violet rose, and as they become matured change to a bright green ground colour, with borders on each side of the mid-rib and veins of silvery whiteness. The under surface of the leaves is bright purple crimson, so that with all these colours the plant produces an effect of the most pleasing description.

Price 31*s.* 6*d. each.*

CALONYCTION SANGUINEA.

An ornamental stove climber introduced from Bombay, and remarkable for its bold and effective cordato acuminate leaves, which measure ten inches or more in length, and eight or ten inches in breadth; reddish tinted while young on the under surface, the upper surface of an olive green with prominent veins, which, with the mid-rib, are tinted with dark red. It produces in the axils of the leaves clusters of flowers, the tubes of which are nearly two inches long, and the limb spreading measuring about three inches across. The flowers are of a delicate rosy flesh colour, with a deep mageuta crimson eye.

Price 21*s. each.*

FRANCISCEA LINDENI.

A free-flowering attractive variety, producing very large violet mauve flowers, introduced from the interior of the province of St. Catherine's, Brazil. It is one of the best Franciscea ever offered, and a plant that can be strongly recommended.

It is of excellent habit, and free growth, merely requiring ordinary stove cultivation.

Price 31*s.* 6*d. each.*

MARANTA VANDEN HECKEI.

This ornamental stove plant is one of the best Marantas introduced up to the present time. It has been introduced from Para. It is of moderate size and of compact habit; the leaves are of a dark satin-like green, embellished by a large central line, surrounded by an undulated silver dise.

Price 21*s. each.*

ROGERIA GRATISSIMA.

The flowers of this plant will be perfect gems for bouquets. They are produced in elegant corymbs of a delicate pink colour. It blooms so freely that it is nearly always in flower, added to which it is deliciously fragrant, and the habit of the plant is neat and compact.

It has been introduced from Teopisca, Chiapas, at an altitude of 7,500 feet above the level of the sea, consequently in the cold region, so that cultivated in a cold stove or warm greenhouse, it succeeds admirably.

Price 31*s.* 6*d. each.*

SAXIFRAGA FORTUNEI.

This is an exceedingly handsome Japan plant, it produces fine corymbs of white blossom, at a season when flowers in the greenhouse are very scarce, viz.: September, October, and November; being an easily cultivated plant, it is an exceedingly desirable introduction.

Price 15*s. each.*

SKIMMIA OBLATA.

A most beautiful Japanese evergreen hardy shrub, producing berries of the brightest vermilion red; this is one of Mr. Fortune's discoveries, and proves to be quite distinct from all other Skimmias as yet known, in the remarkably oblate shape of its bright red berries, so obviously different from the dull red oblong fruit of other Skimmias. It is also strikingly distinct in its foliage, which is of a different texture, as well as in its habit from the other species known to us. It is a free-growing shrub with dense clear green leaves; the panicles of bright coloured berries nestling amongst the foliage at the ends of the branches.

Price 42*s. each.*

SMILAX MACROPHYLLA MACULATA.

A variegated foliaged stove climber with large ovate acuminate leaves, which are bright green, spotted and maculated with white.

It has been introduced from Mexico, and is of easy culture.

Price 26*s. each.*

STAURANTHERA GRANDIFLORA.

A charming stove plant recently introduced from Moulmein, with remarkably large glabrous leaves, oblong, and singularly inequilateral; flowers light blue with bright yellow throat very freely produced, even on small plants.

Price 15*s. each.*

STEVENSONIA SECHELLARIUM.

syn. "Phœnicophorium Sechellarium."

A rare and beautiful Palm from the Island of Seychelles. Its bilobed leaves are dark green prettily maculated with orange, and the stems and leaf-stalks bristle with long needle-shaped spines.

Price 63*s. each.*

Mr. WILLIAM BULL'S NEW PLANTS.

The following extracts are taken from the "*Journal of Horticulture*," and the "*Gardeners' Chronicle*" respectively, and are copied entire as conveying a little idea of the interest and importance of some of the New Plants now offered, as well as of many others to be seen at his Establishment.

Extract from *Journal of Horticulture*, April 4th 1865, p. 265.

"I thought the other day, that when I noticed some of the novelties in Mr. Bull's establishment, I had had enough of new plants to last me some time; but having heard that the importations which he had expected from abroad had arrived, and that I should find some remarkable things amongst them, I took the opportunity, while in town on other matters, of running over to Chelsea and seeing with my own eyes as far as I could the treasures he had received; and as far as my poor opinion goes, I am convinced that there are many plants which will be of great interest both in a botanical and horticultural point of view. Many of them were in a condition in which it would be impossible to form a very decided opinion, while others gave evidence of their beauty and singularity.

"I have already alluded to the very interesting variegated Aucubas received by Mr. Bull from the continent, where they were introduced by Dr. Von Siebold; but he has some green-leaved varieties which will be, I think, equally interesting, and which have already received certificates both at the Royal Horticultural and Botanic Societies. Then there was A. japonica macrophylla, with a light spinach-coloured green leaf fully 9 inches long by 4½ wide; latifolia, very broad dark green leaf, quite distinct; and mascula angulata, very narrow leaf. The variegated varieties were lancifolia variegata, margined with gold; mascula elegans and mascula elegantissima, broad leaf, yellow blotch; mascula bicolor, deep yellow centre to leaf; sulphurea, edged with sulphur yellow, the yellow also interspersed in the green; varia, distinct deep yellow blotch; mascula picta, also yellow-blotched. These are all distinct, although it may seem that in describing them as yellow-blotched and green there is great sameness; but any one can at once see the great distinctness that there is in the different varieties, and what a fine feature they will by-and-by make in our gardens.

"Of new Camellias there were Prince Camille, fine shaded rose, of exquisite shape, and Comtesse de Gonda, a very pretty light pink flaked with deep crimson, promising to be a very pretty variety. Then there was an older kind—Mrs. Abbey Wilder, a beautiful white, but interesting from the fact that Queen of Beauties is a fixed sport from it. Some of these new varieties of Camellias are quite putting the older ones into the shade.

"Ferns—that ever increasing family whose name now is legion, and some of whose members are ever arriving from different parts of the world—were well

represented by Adiantum robustum, a splendid strong-growing kind of fine foliage; Lastrea erythrosora, a hardy and pretty species from Japan; Odontosoria tenuifolia stricta, differing from the normal condition of the plant in having stiff upright foliage; Ophioglossum palmatum, a very handsome species introduced in dried specimens, it is said by one of the best authorities on the subject, two hundred years ago, but of which the only living example is that which Mr. Bull has; a very beautiful Asplenium called myriophyllum, which will make a companion plant to Todea superba; and a fine Aspidium, not yet named, from Para.

"Of fine-foliaged plants, suitable perhaps for sub-tropical gardening, such as Mr. Gibson has so successfully carried out at Battersea, there were some plants which will make a figure I fancy by-and-by. These were two Solanums of great size, and indeed of great names—one of them, at least, for it was called S. pyracanthum horridum aureum! deep golden-yellow spines; and Solanum crinitum, of which the leaves were 2 feet long by, in their widest part, the same width; this had white spines, but both promised to rival the Wigandias, Ferdinandas, and other plants of similar character now used. Of those which might be more correctly designated as stove plants there were some fine things. Thus there was Saurauja sarapigiensis, with a broad Sphærogyne-like leaf, the leaves measuring 19 inches long by 8 wide; the mid-rib being of a bright carmine, and the rest of a lighter shade of the same colour; when well grown this will be a noble-looking plant. Of a somewhat similar character was Sphærogyne cinnamomea, of which the stem, ribs, and under surface of the leaves were of a bright cinnamon colour. There were also a fine Cupania "undulata," of graceful pendant habit, and a new species of Leea, of a beautiful drooping habit also. Pandanus, which has so many ornamental species already, was represented by Pandanus Lennæi, somewhat like elegantissima, but with white spines; and curiously enough the spines in the mid-rib turn downwards while those on the edge turn upwards. With this there was Pandanus ornata, a fine delicate leaf with white spines, a sweetly pretty variety. And what shall we say to a bright sky-blue Amaryllis? This I did not see in flower; but in Impératrice do Brazils, Mr. Bull possesses such a glorious subject! Its flowers are said to equal in size Ackermanni and others of the same character, and to be a genuine bright blue.

"I ought to mention, too, a plant which will be interesting to many from the associations connected with it—Salvadora persica, the Mustard Tree of Scripture, and which Mr. Bull has already announced for distribution. Allamanda Hendersonii, said to be the very finest of its class, is also here in Mr. Bull's possession, and promises to be a great favourite.

And now, as ladies are said to reserve the pith of their letters for the postscript, so have I reserved to the last mention of a very curious, and, as far as I could judge, a very beautiful tribe entirely new to us—viz., some new Urospathas from South America. They belong to the Aroidiæ, the leaves having somewhat of the curious winged character we see in some of the members of that family, but still more fantastic. They differ from Alocasias in two very important particulars—instead of having bulbous roots, they have long creeping rhizomes like some of the creeping Ferns, and instead of being deciduous, they preserve their foliage all the winter—a very decided advantage. Then this foliage is marked in a most beautiful and singular manner. In some there is a red ground netted all over with green, others

have a creamy white ground interspersed with green, others are blotched with red, and in fact it is hardly possible at present to say what strange forms and colours they will present; but I think enough is seen to enable one to say that they will indeed prove one of the most decided acquisitious in ornamental-foliaged stove plants that we have had for some years. When I add that the entire stock of many of the most prominent and beautiful of the preceding plants are exclusively in Mr. Bull's possession, those interested in such things (and who are not?) can form some idea of the treat in store for them by a visit to his Establishment.

"And so must end my notes. Will any one wonder after seeing all this, and having the words 'new,' 'novelties,' &c., ringing in my ears, that when I 'turned in' for the night my dreams should have been coloured by what I saw—that I fancied Mr. Bull was clipping off the few hairs I had left in my rapidly decreasing locks, and was inserting them in thumb-pots, and dosing them with 'thine inimitable oil of Macassar,' as an entirely new sort—that my digits were expanding into creeping rhizomes, while all over me there was a general sprouting process going on which threatened to exhaust all the tissues of my poor body—and that an admiring bevy of botanists were minutely surveying my poor self, and disputing as to what new genus they should ascribe me to. Unhappily I was not in my own home, so that I had no friendly nudge to startle me out of my visions by 'My dear you must have eaten something that disagreed with you;' so that it went on until I was heartily glad to awake and find, as old John Bunyan has it, 'Behold it was all a dream.' —D., *Deal*."

Extract from *Gardeners' Chronicle*, May 6th, 1865, page 415.

"Mr. Bull's Nursery, Chelsea.—Straying in here a few weeks since, on the look-out for winter flowers and charms, I soon found myself absorbed in the contemplation of new plants. To begin with the stoves. Here I found a little plant, itself as hardy as Water-cress, which somewhere or other had taken a freak and become distinctly variegated, and by somebody or other had been sent to Chelsea, to be steamed and roasted at such a rate, for the purposes of propagation, as never before could have happened to our little friend since those days, ages ago, when the great flood of heat came down, softening and genialising our then ice-bound latitudes, and driving all tiny subjects that liked to take it 'coolly' to the hill and mountain tops. The plant is the popular spring flower Aubretia purpurea, with a distinct marginal variegation, which is thoroughly constant in the plants, whether in the stoves, greenhouses, or cold pits. Only fancy what a charming edging this will make, more particularly when the numerous blue flowers are elevated above the half-whitened compact foliage. The Cruciferæ have afforded us some capital variegated and edging plants, but in most cases the colour of the flowers comes much too near that of the variegation—here we have a 'true blue' for a contrast. As far as I could judge, it is likely to be most useful and desirable for all gardens.

"One might think that it is almost time for this comparatively insignificant little planet of ours to be exhausted of startling novelties for the plant-house, so much has it been ransacked of late; and when one does meet with a very 'distinguished party' like the Cyanophyllum or Sphærogyne, a shabby little suspicion will sometimes

come to the surface and say, 'we shall not wonder at your like again,' but the cry is 'still they come,' and a sad day it will be for horticulturists when it is otherwise.

"But tho 'after ourselves the deluge' people need have little misgiving about a supply of new plants during our day and generation, as may be seen here. What fine-looking batch of young plants are these with large leaves, tho young ones of a pleasant reddish tint, the mid-rib in all the leaves of a bright reddish pink, looking very striking in the older and greener leaves, and almost every portion covered with short thick stiff hairs? It is Saurauja sarapigiensis, a plant worthy of association with tho Sphærogyne and Cyanophyllum. Leaves on one older plant were 20 inches long, and 8 to 9 across. With our good plant growers they will probably be more. Paehycentra Walkerii, from Ceylon, with sparsely ciliated leaves dusted over with minute crystal-like spots, and the habit of a scandent Ficus, is said to flower and 'bract' in the way of Medinilla. Cupania undulata, from South America, is a plant with pinnate leaves, their edges very wavy—a graceful subject altogether. A new Sphærogyne! and a very fine one too, with the stem densely covered with short woolly matter, the leaves large, and of a light green, unlike the other species, is named S. cinnamomea.

"Passing by a new Maranta, Van den Heckei, several fine new Figs, and numbers of their companions in novelty, I come to a class of plants said to be new to science —the genus Urospatha, of which Mr. Bull has a large stock—the species not yet named. They have creeping rhizomes like some Ferns. There are hundreds of rhizomes starting into growth, and an odd plant in leaf here and there, just sufficient to give one an idea of their distinct aspect. The leaves are of a firm leathery texture, mostly fretted and spotted over with pink; in their present state not large, but probably they are not nearly so quick-growing as the Caladiums, the more especially as they are leaves that remain on all through the winter. They are mostly of a singular sagittate form—those of one kind looking exactly like a cordate leaf that had been cut from its centre to the middle of each shoulder with a pair of scissors. In others the basal lobes become enlarged after receding from the apex of the petiole, and taper again into an acuminate point. The lobes in this and another species being much larger than the apical portion, seem to have the effect of causing the leaves to hang with the basal lobes downwards, so that if distillation takes place in this section of the Arum family, it will probably be by a double channel and a reversed outlet.

"Here again *is* a plant! Its name is Bertolonia margaritacea, and it is furnished with leaves 4 to 5 inches long, and 3 to 4 broad, of a purplish-olive colour, with a narrow gleam of purple along the ribs, somewhat of a Cyanophyllum hue, and on the leaves are regular rows of spots of snowy whiteness, just exactly like those on the best marked Sonerila, but a much magnified Sonerila would hardly be so beautiful. If asked to indicate its merit, as is frequently done by laying down the number of miles worth travelling to see it, I would scarcely know where to stop. And this is an introduction of Mr. Weir's, whom I have heard accredited with sending home 'nothing but rubbish!' It was sent out by the Horticultural Society at a stage when its beauty could not be seen, and has, I believe, been lost by most people to whom it was sent—probably not being sufficiently established at the time. Did Mr. Weir introduce nought else, it is sufficient to make his journey remembered.

"Many things, such as the excellent Cycas Riuminiana, the Silver Palm, Calamus dealbata, the Weeping Willow of Australia, Dammara Moorei, the ivory-stemmed Dieffenbachia, a Japanese Ardisia, with roundish variegated leaves, and numerous other plants exhibited last season, though all new, are yet passed by as comparatively old in this place, in consequence of the advent of still newer subjects, among which is Allamanda Hendersonii, which is said to be a remarkably free-flowering kind, in addition to other distinctions; a batch of new Dioscoreas, with silver-blotched purplish leaves; and a goodly collection of Pandanuses, including P. Vandermeerschi, in the way of P. elegantissimus, but smaller and even more graceful; P. Blancoi, with very long arching leaves; P. latissimus, the handsomest of the broad-leaved section; P. ornatus, a dwarf, graceful, light green species. Also Phryuium maculatum, with delicate, though distinct yellow markings; and the fine Anthurium cordifolium.

"There are tubers beginning to grow of one species of the highly curious genus Amorphophallus, and another is soon to follow, but it is perhaps wiser to see the plants developed before saying anything of them. Judging from the plate in *L'Illustration Horticole* they look like gigantic arborescent specimens of Arum Dracunculus. A spiny-leaved Hibiscus, the true H. ferox, is more like a sturdy Solanum or shrubby Nettle; and what a very odd Xanthosoma is this, with a little attempt at a leaf, situated on the mid-rib on the under side of the large normal leaves. These little hooded abortions occur regularly on every leaf, and give the plant a very singular character.

"Among Ferns of which there are many new here, Asplenium myriophyllum is one that will become widely spread, for its habit is exceedingly graceful and refreshing many as are the lovely Ferns we have seen, and its divisions are very minute. There is also a new seedling Gymnogramma like G. Wetenhalliana, but golden; Ophioglossum palmatum, an extremely rare Fern, though known to botanists for a century and a half; Lastrea varia, a distinct and fine Fern; and a curious Fern which Mr. Bull, supposing it to be a hybrid between Pteris serrulata and P. cretica, calls P. serrulata cretica variegata; it is well variegated, and larger than P. serrulata

"Before leaving the stoves, however, I must mention a maculated Dracæna called picta; a new Cyanophyllum; and the fine Amaryllis procera, also called Empress de Brazils, the flowers of which are blue; the Golden Latania; some new Solanums in the 'sub-tropical' direction—one, S. crinitum, said to produce leaves 2 to 3 feet across. Also the true Mangostan, and the Mustard Tree of Scripture; and a fine lot of Rhodeas, striated and variegated quite differently from the common form—one called R. japonica aureo-marginata, is twice the size of the old margined Rhodea, and quite erect and rigid.

"The new Aucubas are at present one of the chief attractions here. The collection is a very remarkable one, and no doubt destined to work no small improvement in our shrubberies. There are half-a-dozen well-blotched variegated varieties, several with the leaf, except a narrow margin of green, of a clear lemon yellow; and free and excellent looking varieties without any variegation. These I am inclined to think will prove most valuable, especially for towns, for it is reasonable to expect that they should thrive where the variegated form does 'pretty well.' Of these

Aucuba japonica macrophylla is a fine plant, with leaves of a lighter green than its very dark-hued neighbour, latifolia, which has also very large leaves, and promises to make another noble shrub; maculata is a very fine spotted variety, with broad leaves, quite flat; elegantissima is a great leaved variety, with one immense blotch of clear yellow, and the remaining green portion lightly dappled over with small yellow spots; elegans is rather deeply serrated, with a broad centre of yellow and dark green margin; sulphurea has the variegation suffused all over the leaf, and is quite distinct from the other strikingly-marked kinds; marginata has the variegation round the leaf margins; and ohlonga is another green form, almost sure to make a noble shrub. The Himalayan, Fortune's, the normal male and female forms, and other Aucubas, all are here, Fortune's maculated male being a most lively subject, and yielding more and better pollen than any of the other males. Great as is the immediate pleasure of introducing such fine plants, it is very little compared to what we should experience a dozen years hence, when they shall have done much to embellish our islands. I have omitted the 'mascula' in naming them, but almost all spoken of are male forms.

"I cannot now go over the florist flowers, but must mention a new strain of Mimulus, with hose-in-hose flowers; and so bid good bye to this fine collection of novelties.—W. R."

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